Friday, Sept. 7, 2001 Vandenberg AFB, Calif. Vol. 11, No. 35



Base News Briefs MOBILE HOME PARK RESIDENTS WILL BE PAID FOR MOVE

Effective Sunday, all VAFB mobile home park residents who move to an on-base address or the local area will be paid by the government for their moving expenses. Moves from the mobile home Park will be considered a directed move. However, as in the past, the payment for movement of the mobile home must meet criteria established in the joint travel regulations. For more information about joint travel regulation, call Tech. Sgt. Michael Dobbs at 606-0904. For information about housing, call Elaine Denton at 606-3434.

CHAPEL HOLDS FREE POST-DEPLOYMENT PARTY THURSDAY

A post-deployment party and barbecue picnic is scheduled for Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Cocheo Park. Honorees will be people who've returned from a 30-day or more deployment from June through August. Family members, base commanders, chiefs and first sergeants of those deployed are welcome to attend. Program includes recognition, door prizes, food and fun. Make reservations with Chaplain (Capt.) Michael Husfelt by Monday.

PHARMACY CHANGES DROP-OFF HOURS BEGINNING SEPT. 17

Beginning Sept. 17, the 30th Medical Group pharmacy will limit the hours patients can turn in prescriptions written by off-base doctors. The new turn-in hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. During the dropoff hours, a pharmacist will be on duty to verify the prescribed dosages, potential side effects and drug interactions. For information, call the pharmacy at 606-7440 or 606-5327.

BREAKERS' STAFF HOLDS BIRTHDAY MEAL SEPT. 20

The Breakers Dining Facility staff has scheduled a birthday meal for Sept. 20 at 6 p.m. to celebrate July, August and September birthdays. People should call their first sergeant to sign up. For information, call Deborah Myjak at 606-1219 or Staff Sgt. Dalhia Shelton at 606-3219.

VANDENBERG HOLDS POW/MIA CEREMONY

A POW/MIA Day ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. Sept. 21 at the base POW/MIA memorial located near the library. The ceremony will honor those listed as POW or MIA and their families. All base people are invited to attend. For information, call Master Sgts. Sam Warren at 606-5550 or Troy Weigel at 606-9044.

LOMPOC COMMUNITY CENTER **NEEDS VOLUNTEERS, SUPPLIES**

Officials at the Lompoc Valley Community Center are looking for "handy" people to help finish building a youth center. Volunteers with construction experience are needed. The center is located on South K Street across the street from Lompoc High School. For information, call Master Sgt. Clifford Tebbe at 606-0143.

OSI CONDUCTS INVESTIGATION ON RENTAL CAR COMPANY

The British Ministry of Defense Police and Air Force Office of Special Investigations are currently conducting an investigation into a company that rents vehicles to U.S. and other authorized personnel in and around the Royal Air Force Lakenheath, Alconberry and Mildenhall areas in the United Kingdom. The allegations are that this company charged for damage to rental vehicles, which did not occur, and that U.S. personnel may have been deceived into paying other fraudulent charges for vehicles. This scheme was cleverly disguised so that those who were defrauded may not have known they paid unnecessary or unlawful fees. In order to establish if people have been subjected to the alleged frauds committed by this company, call Det. 804, AFOSI at 606-1852.

PACIFIC COAST CLUB HOLDS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Pacific Coast Club is conducting a membership drive through mid-November. For more information, call Josie Cooper at 606-3330.

30th Weather Squadron's weekend forecast

Vandenberg will have patchy morning fog and sunny afternoons. Fog will roll in early evening.



Low/High

Visit the 30th Weather Squadon's website at www.vandenberg.af.mil/30sw/organizations/ 30og/weather/weather/index.html to get a five**This** News.....Pg. 3 week ...

Inventing the 'WEEL' 392nd moves into 21st century News.....Pg. 4

Be a sport! Mouthguards protect thousands Events.....Pg. 5

Community Calendar Meetings, events, movies

Plovers receive 'unfeathered' access

By Capt. Tom Knowles

Director, 30th Space Wing Public Affairs ■ Vandenberg officials were required to close Surf Beach Monday after eight people were found in the closed beach areas. The areas had previously been placed off-limits to protect the western snowy plover during its nesting season. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service listed the plover as a threatened

species in 1993. "This is very disappointing," said Col. Robert Worley, commander, 30th Space Wing. "We've worked very hard to ensure recreational access for our base and surrounding communities while ensuring species protection."

The violations raised the total from 24 to 32, exceeding the beach's violation threshold of 25. Two violations were also acquired on Surf Beach Monday. The violation thresholds are a part of the USFWS stipulated Biological Opinion terms and conditions for this year's nesting season. The BO supported rec-

400

100

Plover 300

nests 200

VAFB Nest Count

1997

1998

1999

2000

2001

reational access to ½ mile of Surf Beach, ½ mile of Minuteman Beach and ¼ mile of Wall Beach during the western snowy plover's nesting season, provided the base complied with the violation thresholds and accomplished a number of additional enforcement and educational measures.

Six violations were also reported Sunday at Vandenberg's Wall Beach, bringing the total for this stretch of beach, accessible to those with base access, up to eight violations. The base must close base access to Wall Beach upon exceeding 10 violations. Minuteman Beach currently has 2 violations, with a five-violation threshold. All base beaches are scheduled to re-open to recreational access at the end of the plover's nesting season, which runs from March 1 to September 30 each year.

Unless violation thresholds are reached, Wall and Minuteman beaches are scheduled to remain open, Friday through Monday, 8 a.m. through 6 p.m.

> To find out if a beach is open or closed, base members may call the base Fish and Game office at 606-6804.

> "While disappointed that the beach had to be closed, we've actually been very successful in maintaining recreational access, even under the stringent enforcement measures placed on the base," said

'We've taken extraordinary measures to keep this area open and overall are very BEACH ACCESS **TEMPORARILY** CLOSED

UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

BY ORDER OF INSTALLATION COMMANDER

Surf Beach was closed Monday until Oct. 1 after eight people were found in the closed beach nesting area.

pleased with our success in not only maintaining access, but protecting the species," the commander said.

Also encouraging is preliminary data collected by base biologists which suggests the plover population will once again increase in 2001.

"The numbers are definitely increasing at Vandenberg," said Lt. Col. Scott Westfall, 30th Civil Engineer Squadron Environmental Flight commander. "As it stands right now we've had 182 nests at Vandenberg this year."

This is up from last year when the base had 140 nests. In 1999, the total was even lower, totaling 104 nests. This low number of nests is attributed to uncharacteristic weather conditions associated with El Nino.

Despite the closure, the base will continue to have monitors at Surf Beach to enforce the closure, prevent further violations and ensure species protec-

"It's important for everyone to recognize that there have been no takes of the species at Vandenberg's beaches which can be attributed to human impacts," Worley said. "By continuing to stay out of the closed areas, we can build upon this positive trend and better posture ourselves for ensuring future recreational access," he said.

So far this year the number of beach violations have been significantly lower than last year's. In 2000, the base accrued 196 violations versus this year's total of 44.

Atlas set to go



Team Vandenberg is scheduled to launch an Atlas IIAS rocket Saturday from Space Launch Complex 3 at 8:24 a.m. on South Vandenberg. The rocket will carry a classified satellite into orbit for the National Reconnaissance Office. People with base access can view the launch from the Rod and Gun Club.

New beginning for VAFB spouses' club

ocs opens door nations to the food bank and other charitable organizations during the to enlisted spouse membership

By Staff Sgt. Andrew Leonhard

30th Space Wing Public Affairs ■ A new beginning has started here

Spouses' Club.

at Vandenberg. The Officers' Spouses' club has opened its membership to all base spouses to start the new Vandenberg

'We felt it was time for a change here at Vandenberg," said Tammie Byrd, Vandenberg Spouses' Club

According to Byrd there is a need to support enlisted spouses as well as officer spouses.

Currently Vandenberg doesn't have an enlisted spouses' club.

The officers spouses' club has been active since the early 1960s.

The purpose of the spouses' club is social and charitable, said Byrd. The OSC raised more than \$13,000 in March during their annual auction and they gave away more than \$18,000 in sports and academic schol-

arships. The spouses' club also gave docharitable organizations during the

The goal of the new spouses' club will be to create new friendships, receive support from other military spouses, and to help make Vandenberg a better base, said Byrd.

ALOHA NIGHT SCHEDULED SEPT. 18

■ The new Vandenberg Spouses' Club has scheduled an Aloha Activities Night Hawaiian Luau for Sept. 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the Pacific Coast Club. On- and off-base organizations will set up booths to showcase their services to military people. For reservations or more information, people whose last names begin with the letters A through K should call Stacy Henson at 734-7344. People whose last names begin with the letters L through Z should call Beki Malone at 734-2668. Make reservations by Sept. 13.

AFSPC taps 65 people for space, missile command jobs

■ Team Vandenberg mem-

for space and missile

in 2002 are:

14th Air Force

bers selected as candidates

squadron command positions

• Lt. Col. Juan Holguin,

Maj. Eric Barnes,

576th Flight Test Squadron

By Capt. Lorinda Frederick AFSPC Directorate of Personnel

■ The commander of Air Force Space Command recently announced the results of the Vigilant Eagle 2002 Operations Squadron Commander Selection Board held Aug. 16 through 17.

Gen. Ed Eberhart identified 65 lieutenant colonel and lieutenant colonelselect candidates from an original field of 195 officers. The 65 candidates will now compete for 31 projected space and missile squadron command position openings in 2002.

The board considered all aspects of the officers' records and duty histories to include demonstrated leadership, leadership potential and professional development.

In his charge to the board members, Eberhart emphasized the Space Commission's recommendation of creating a space professional

'While we will always need commanders who are firmly grounded in operations, we agree with the mand during the initial process will recommission's concept of cross-flowing people from the space acquisition and R&D [research and development] community," he said.

Vigilant Eagle 2002 board results mirror the Space Commission's recommendation. Of the 65 candidates, there are 51 space and missile (core 13S) candidates, eight developmental engineering (core 62E) candidates, five acquisi-

tion (core 63A) candidates, and one space and missile maintenance (core

21M) candidate. Operations squadron commander se-

lections will be announced in mid-Octo-Candidates not selected for commain eligible throughout 2002 for unprojected squadron commander requirements.

Board members included the AFSPC vice commander,

the Space and Missile Systems Center commander, AFSPC's director of operations, the Space Warfare Center commander, the 14th and 20th Air Force commanders, the National Reconnaissance Office senior Air

Force officer, all AFSPC wing commanders or vice commanders, and Air Education and Training Command's 381st Training Group commander.

Board membership was expanded this year to include SMC and NRO representation. That underscored the importance of cross-flowing officers from those organizations and emphasized AFSPC's commitment to building space professionals.

Experience demographics reveal that of the 65 candidates, nine have NRO experience, four have developmental engineering experience, four have acquisition experience, and eight have both developmental engineering and acquisition experience.

A briefing on the board results will soon be presented to AFSPC staff, space wings and other affected organizations.

For more information on Vigilant Eagle, call Capt. Frank Mills at (719) 554-3470 or DSN 692-3470, or Capt. Shane Clark at (719) 554-2690 or DSN

People can also visit the Vigilant Eagle Web site at https:// vigilant.eagle@peterson.af.mil.

midway.peterson.af.mil/2letters/dp/ vigilanteagle.htm or e-mail questions SPACE&MISSILETIMES Sept. 7, 2001



Alyssa Sheats, 7, rides her bike down the California Boulevard sidewalk out of traffic.

Commander addresses bike safety

■ In a recent action line response, Col. Robert M. Worley II, 30th Space Wing commander, addressed bicycle safety on California Boulevard.

The sidewalk along California Boulevard, between the Santa Maria Gate and 13th Street is a designated bike lane in accordance with 30th Space Wing Instruction 31-109, Chapter 8, Paragraph 8.2.

The safest bicycle route along California is on the sidewalk. This is because of narrow lanes and heavy traffic on this street. However, this is a soft requirement and is not enforceable under the California Vehicle Code.

CVC allows bicvclists to ride on any street that is open to motor vehicles, with the exception of freeways, as long as the rules of the road are followed. While bicyclists are strongly encouraged to use the sidewalk along this route, the base doesn't prohibit bicyclists from riding on California Boulevard.

Selection, evaluation boards: a fair system

By Col. Steve Robinson

30th Support Group commander

uring August, I had the opportunity to present a number of briefings on the officer selection board process to members of Team Vandenberg. I hope to provide similar briefings in the future on senior and chief master sergeant evaluation

I wanted to share my first-hand knowledge of selection board procedures after having served in the Selection Board Secretariat from July 1995 to June 1999.

During my four years in the boardroom, it was very evident to me that the Air Force goes to great lengths to make sure the selection process is fair and equitable to all eligibles meeting the board.

The Selection Board Secretariat is located at the Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB, Texas. The Secretariat conducts all officer selection boards to the grades of captain through major general and enlisted evaluation boards to the top two grades of senior and chief master sergeant.

In 1994, the Air Force began a campaign to

demystify selection and evaluation board processes. In essence, we opened the doors to the board room to allow the world to see exactly what goes on behind the scenes. Air Force News Service wrote many articles describing the process, and the Air Force even went to the extent of inviting the Air Force Times to see the process first hand.

We were convinced the process could withstand the scrutiny of the media, and it did.

During my tenure in the board room, it was not unusual to have distinguished visitors invited by the Secretary of the Air Force to sit in on the first morning of a board. Some of these distinguished visitors included the Secretary of the Air Force General Counsel, the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower, Reserve Affairs, Installations and Environment, and the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

These officials are charged by the Secretary to ensure the process complies with all laws, directives and instructions. They left the boardroom with a sincere appreciation for the fairness of the process.

The United States Congress imposes

grade ceilings on the number of officers that are allowed to serve in any one grade at any one time on active duty. The same holds true for the top two enlisted grades.

The number of enlisted members serving in the grades of senior and chief master sergeant is limited to 3 percent of the enlisted force. Only 1 percent can serve in the grade of chief master sergeant.

As a result of these grade ceilings, promotion quotas in the Air Force always run out before the number of qualified candidates does. In other words, many highly qualified Air Force members aren't selected for promotion simply because there are not enough quotas available.

Regardless of quota constraints, there's one thing you can count on—your selection and evaluation board processes are fair and equitable. The Air Force goes to great lengths to protect that fairness.

In fact, one of the recent board presidents from a lieutenant colonel promotion board said it best, "There's no way to come up with a perfect system, but I believe our system is perfectly fair."



Col. Robert M. Worley II Commander, 30th Space Wing

Commander's Action Line

ission success is our top priority, and the talented men and women of Team Vandenberg get it done with excellence. Key to the effectiveness of any great team is good communication. The 30th Space Wing Commander's Action Line is your direct communication link to me. It provides an avenue for you to voice your concerns, share constructive ideas, or give your Vandenberg teammates a pat on the back. I appreciate your input,

and I am personally involved in every response. While the Commander's Action Line is a great way to

communicate, don't forget there are many other avenues to get answers to your questions including your chain of command, first sergeants, base services officials, and many other base professionals. Thanks for helping to make Vandenberg such a great place to work and live. When calling the action line, please leave your name and phone number. The action line numbers is 606-7850 or you may e-mail your message to actionline@vandenberg.af.mil

Handy phone numbers

EMERGENCY	911
Information	
Poison control	800-876-4766
Clinic appointments	606-4077
Healthwise line	888-252-3299
TRICARE servicesLaw enforcement	800-242-6788
Law enforcement	606-3300
Housing maintenance	734-5586
Child Development Center	606-1555
MPF customer service	606-7756
Visitor control center	606-7662
Fitness center Chaplain (after hours) Red Cross (duty hours)	606-3832
Chaplain (after hours)	606-9961
Red Cross (duty hours)	606-1855
Red Cross (after hours)	800-660-4272
EOD (duty hours)	605-1375
EOD (after hours)	606-9961
Pest Control	606-1936
Base operator	606-1110

SPACE & MISSILE

Capt. To: Master S Staff Sqt Master S Airman 1

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Fom Knowles. Sgt. Ty Foster. gt. Andrew Leonhard. Sgt. Lloyd Conley. 1 1st Class Jonathan Pomeroy.	Director of Public AffairsChief of Internal InformationEditorStaff Writer	Space Wing. This commercial enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Space & Missile Times are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed	does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or Lompoc Record Publications, of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or	any other nonmentractor of the purchaser, user or patron. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Vandenberg AFB Public Affairs Office. All photos, unless otherwise indicated, are Air Force photos. The Public Affairs Office reserves the right	Send submissions to: 305VMPA, 747 Nebraska Ave., Room A-105, VAFB, CA 93437 via fax at DSN 276-8303 or commercial (805) 606-8303; or by e-mail to <u>Space&MissileTime</u> : @vandenberg.af.milQuestions regarding the paper can be directed to the <i>Space & Missile</i> Times staff at (805) 606-2040.

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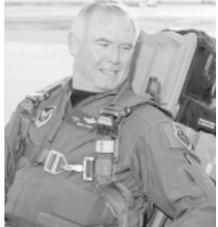
SECAF says hail, farewell

■ WASHINGTON — The Air Force bade farewell Thursday to a friend, an exceptional leader, and a champion of Air Force standards and quality of life.

We also hailed on this day a new chief of staff, selected by President Bush and confirmed by the United States Senate, to preside over the total Air Force team as our highest uniformed leader. Gen. Michael Ryan dedicated more than 36 years of his life to our Air Force he sacrificed much and succeeded at all he did along the way.

Our grateful nation and our superb Air Force are the beneficiaries of his exceptional leadership, his focus on improving quality of life for all airmen and their families, his innate sense of excellence, and his dedication to successfully transform us toward a fully expeditionary aerospace force. His legacy is a bright and promising future for aerospace power and all

airmen on the total Air Force team, including our active duty, Air National Guard, Reserve, retirees, veterans, and families. It has been an incredible honor and a pleasure for me to have had the opportunity to serve with Gen. Mike Ryan. To me, he



Gen. Michael Ryan, outgoing Air Force chief of staff, sits in the cockpit of an F-16 during his visit to Edwards AFB, Calif.

my men; and only then, myself. Gen. John Jumper, our new chief of

epitomizes the leader's ethic: my mission;

staff of the Air Force, brings an impressive background and broad experience to the job of helping to lead our total Air Force team onward in this new century. Somewhat like General Ryan's, his family ties to our service extend as far back as the Army Air Corps. His experience transcends both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, with more than 1,400 combat hours in two Southeast Asia tours, and two full assignments in Europe.

Having already proven himself a wise counsel and superlative leader at Air Combat Command, I am truly looking forward to serving with Gen. Jumper in the months and years ahead. Our bright future awaits. Together with everyone else on our team, General Jumper and I will work to pilot the journey that will take us there.

On behalf of the total Air Force team, I bid fond farewell with profound appreciation to Gen. Mike Ryan, and congratulate and welcome Gen. John Jumper, our 17th chief of staff of the Air Force. (Courtsey Air Force Print News)

Personnel data system journey not over yet

■ RANDOLPH AFB, Texas — Three months after the launch of the Air Force's new personnel data system, some problems have been worked out, but officials said the journey is not over.

Reports are flying in to local units of serious pay problems. Many of these reports are true, and it's "simply not acceptable," said Maj. Gen. Michael McMahan, AFPC commander.

"It's frankly upsetting that airmen have been inconvenienced and financially stressed because of the transition to the new system," McMahan said.

"Getting no pay or the wrong pay; or waiting months for a re-enlistment bonus is not something we should be putting our people through, especially when we're at the same time asking people to make the Air Force a career.

"We're working on every level — directly with the individuals, with local finance offices and with other agencies like the Defense Finance and Accounting Service to get people paid, paid right, and paid on time," he said.

And, according to officials, it looks like the causes of most of those problems have been identified and long-term fixes are being developed.

In the short term, people are getting paid on paydays and the delayed re-enlistment bonuses should be paid out by the end of September, said Lt.Col. Richard Treasure, chief of the requirements systems division here.

"There will certainly be pay problems that continue to crop up — there were before this changeover — but that's what the (military personnel flights) and the finance offices are there for: to help people with those problems," Treasure said.

Officials are also keeping a close eye on the assignment process.

"We are working to get the enlisted assignment process back on track, after it was essentially put on hold over the summer because of the transition to the new system," Treasure said.

The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for overseas returnees in the November through January cycle is now posted to the AFPC Web site and is available at local MPFs and commander's support staff offices.

Airmen eligible during this cycle have until Sept. 6 to update their assignment preferences through their MPF or CSS.

Individuals who have applied for a voluntary assignment action — base of preference, join spouse, special duty, etc., are still waiting.

'We can't do the voluntary assignment actions until we know who is most eligible to go overseas," Treasure said.

'And since we are having technical problems with that data, we're having to hold off approving those voluntary applications.'

Information on the overseas EOUAL. scheduled for release Aug. 7, is still forthcoming. Details will be sent to the field as

soon as officials know when they will be able to release that list, officials said.

As AFPC officials continue fine-tuning the new system, people manning local military personnel flights are staying very busy.

People doing business with their local MPFs may have to wait longer for some actions to be completed, officials said.

All the routine requests can be taken care of, but it may take some extra time.

"The individual knows their personnel history better than anyone else," Treasure said. So officials are asking them to review their records carefully and alert the MPF of any discrepancies.

Individuals who do not get their problems resolved through the local MPF or accounting and finance office can contact the AFPC Call Center at (800) 558-1404, DSN 665-2949 or e-mail afpc.dpsfm@afpc.randolph.af.mil. Voice mail answers after-hours calls.

"We understand that everyone is frustrated and that patience is running thin," McMahan said.

"We knew this was going to be a bumpy ride — and it has been. We expect the system to be running smoother by the beginning of next year.

Knowing the problems our customers are having is half the battle to getting the system running smoother," he said.

"But I see these folks working long, hard hours and finding solutions to very complex problems." (AFPC News Service)

392nd Training Squadron instructors invent 'WEEL'

By Capt. Angela Stickels

392nd Training Squadron

■ The 21st century has invaded the 392nd Training Squadron with the introduction of individual computer-based training.

Recently, 12 second lieutenants walked into their Officer Space Prerequisite Training classroom expecting to find a typical classroom.

What OSPT Class 01-18 found was anything but typical.

They were the first class to receive training using the Workshop for Electrically Enhanced Learning program. The class was presented a networked computer system in a raised amphitheatrestyle room.

Each student was armed with a fully loaded computer workstation linked to an intercom headset for interactive instructor guidance. Instead of 388 pages of study guide material, they were issued laptops containing the entire course curriculum for home study.

In addition, progress checks and tests were computerized virtually eliminating the need for paper.

"The WEEL program makes the instructor's job a lot easier," said Capt.

Chad Engman, deputy flight commander. It was designed to teach students more

efficiently. The instructor's lesson is reinforced with interactive audiovisual

This allows better use of question and review time.

Further benefits of the program include shortened course length and lower material costs, resulting in more than \$140,000 savings to the organization annually.

Engman said critiques have shown that the program is well-received among OSPT students.

"One student said, 'I believe that this method tailors to the individual student who knows what learning style works best for him," Engman said.

Lower costs, more efficient use of instructor time and most importantly, a highly computer literate work force are only a few of the benefits gained. Used as a baseline for cost and effectiveness, the 392nd's WEEL program is an initiative that could set the standard for further Air Education and Training Command curriculums, Engman said.

"The pioneering cutting edge computer technology integrated with the classroom will definitely lead AETC on a path that will have profound impacts," he said.

Team Vandenberg Spotlight



Name: Francis "Claire" Sarazen. **Assignment**: 532nd Training Squadron resource adviser. Home Town: Boston, Mass. Time on Vandenberg: Eight

Time in the Air Force: 27 years active duty and civil service. Proudest achievement: Raising two young men who have given her

PHOTO BY AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JONATHAN two worderful grandchildren. Supervisor's comment: "Claire has done a great job for us in the squadron. She keeps the organization's budget straight and supervises three people in supply functions and purchases everything that's needed for the unit," said Capt. Erika Kelley, 532nd

4 SPACE&MISSILETIMES Sept. 7, 2001



It's estimated that mouthpieces prevent more than 20,000 injuries each year.

Be a sport! Wear a mouthguard

By Master Sgt. Ty Foster

30th Space Wing Public Affairs

■ Across the nation, people are gearing up for an action-packed

season of sports.

This season, Vandenberg's dental clinic is joining dentists across the nation to stem the increase in sports-related facial and oral injuries. The best defense in their battle is a good offense. Their weapon of choice — a mouthguard.

"Mouthguards help cushion blows that might otherwise cause broken teeth and injuries to the lips, tongue, face or jaw," said Capt. Yvonne Bilo, 30th Aeromedical-Dental Operations Squadron preventive dentistry officer. "They may also reduce the severity and incidence of concussions."

Research has shown that 31 percent of sporting injuries result in damage to the teeth, face and head. Of the injuries involving teeth, 95 percent result in permanent disfigurement to the upper teeth — the most visible.

"In America this year, more than 5 million teeth will be knocked out in sporting activities," Bilo said.

The American Dental Association estimates that mouthguards prevent more than

20,000 injuries each year from sports.

While they are essential in contact sports, they are also recommended while participating in activities such as: ice, field and street hockey, kick boxing, baseball, football, racquetball, martial arts, boxing, soccer, rugby, basketball, softball, roller blading, skating, skate-boarding, wrestling, volleyball, biking and motorcross.

Compared to rehabilitation costs, not including pain and suffering, a good mouthguard is relatively inexpensive, costing little more than the shoes required for the sport, the dental officer said.

Mouthguards come in three types.

The least expensive and most commonly used is pre-formed and ready to wear. The wearer can reduce the mouthguard's bulk by trimming the edges.

"They don't always fit well and can be very bulky, making it difficult to speak and breathe," Bilo said. another undesirable characteristic of this type of protector is that the wearer must clench his teeth to hold the guard in place.

The mouth-formed protector has two variations. The first variation is made from a plastic

material which can be softened in hot water to fit the athlete's mouth.

The second type of mouthformed protector is made of a Ushaped shell that is fitted with a self-hardening material then placed in the athlete's mouth and held until set.

"If using either of these types, be sure to follow package directions, or ask your family dentist for help," Bilo said. "All these mouthguards can be found at most well stocked sporting goods stores."

The final type is custom made — constructed and fitted by a dentist.

"They are the best fitting and the most comfortable of the three," Bilo said. "They allow the athlete to speak and breathe with ease."

She said the precise fit of custom-made mouthguards may provide 10 times more protection than the boil-and-bite types.

The base dental clinic will provide custom fitted mouthguards for active-duty members. For non-active duty beneficiaries, they can be obtained through the TriCare dental provider. For more information or to schedule an appointment for a mouthguard fitting, call 606-8860.

Space operator creates missile art

By 2ND Lt. VIRGIL MAGEE

Air Force Space Command Public Affairs

■ PETERSON AFB, Colo. — The Air Force Art
Program began more than 50 years ago as a way

to capture Air Force history through paintings.
Originally, Air Force officials contacted the
Society of Illustrators in New York and asked if
any of its members would like to travel to Air
Force bases around the United States in return
for creating artwork of historical value.

Through the years the majority of submissions focused on aircraft. Since there are few paintings with space or missile themes, Air Force Space Command officials began seeking artists, about a year ago, to donate work and add to their portfolios.

"We thought one of the best ways to get more space and missile art was to seek it from within the command," said Skip Bradley, Air Force Space Command historian. "We wanted artistically talented people familiar with the space command mission to submit work."

One of the first submissions came from Capt. Joseph R. LeMay, a missile operations officer from the 576th Flight Test Squadron at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.

He decided to paint an Atlas missile and donate it to the command.

LeMay, who has been painting with oils and watercolors since he was a child, was excited when he heard about the opportunity to donate work to the Air Force Art Program.

"I always wanted the Air Force to appreciate

the thousands of men and women who had dedicated their lives to the Intercontinental Ballistic Missile program," LeMay said. "Everywhere I look I see Air Force art, but I rarely see anything showing our missile contributions."

When LeMay went to Squadron Officer School, he was amazed to learn that a lot of his fellow airmen did not know the Air Force had ICBMs on alert for the past 50 years. That is when he decided to submit his work.

"I was more than happy to paint the Atlas," LeMay said. "I encourage other artists willing to donate their time and efforts to create missile art for the Air Force."

Because the AFSPC mission is so diverse — from missiles to space launches to satellite operations — and the amount of existing art is limited, artists interested in working with the command are essentially starting with a fresh canvas

"Artists who submit work retain the intellectual copyright on their artwork," said Scott Wirz, AFSPC History Office Museum and Art Program manager. "This means artists are free to profit from any prints of their original work. Also, by having their works placed in high-profile areas such as an Air Force headquarters, they can enhance their portfolios."

Artists interested in donating work can call the AFSPC History Office Museum and Art Program manager at (719) 554-3081.

(Courtesy of Air Force print News)



Photo By Staff Sgt. Richard Freeland

Up, up and away

A Ballistic Missile Defense Organization prototype rocket booster system streaks into the air Saturday from launch facility 21 on North Vandenberg.

The successful launch was a test to verify booster and system performance. The system is intended for future use in the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Segement.

The first intercept test using this new booster configuration is currently planned for 2003.



Team
Vandenberg-No one
comes close

Community Calendar

Pacific Coast Performing Arts Theaterfest presents Alfred Hitchcock's

play, "The Rope" now through Sunday at the Festival Theater located at 420 Second Street in Solvang. The show will be presented in the Marian Theater on the Santa Maria Allan Hancock Campus Sept. 14 to 30. For tickets and show times, call PCPA's Box Office at (805) 922-

PCPA Theaterfest presents the comedy-drama "On Golden Pond" today through Sunday at the Marian Theater located on the Santa Maria Allan Hancock Campus, 800 South College Drive. The play will be in the Solvang Festival Theater from Sept. 13 through Oct. 7. For tickets and show times, call the PCPA box office at (805) 922-8313.

PCPA Theaterfest presents "The 1940's Radio Hour," a live studio broadcast of a

1942 radio show and its characters at the Solvang Festival Theater from Friday to Oct. 1 at 8 p.m. For information, call the box office at (805) 922-8313.

The 30th Medical Group is sponsoring **Operation Baby Launch** at 5 p.m. Monday in the Vandenberg Clinic. People can learn information about available resources in local hospitals, TRICARE financial concerns and Vandenberg family practice clinic services. Spouses and partners are welcome and registration is not necessary. For more information, call Capt. Jean Eagleton at 605-8254 or Nancy Sias at 606-8217.

The Asian Pacific American **Association** will hold its monthly meeting at 5 p.m. Monday in the base library conference room A. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. Call Staff Sgt. Maxxwell Starks at 606-9963 for more information.

The 19th annual Taste of the Town will be held from noon to 3 p.m. Monday at Riviera Park Research and Communications Center in Santa Barbara. The event will feature food from more than 30 restaurants and wine from 25 vintners. Proceeds benefit the Arthritis Foundation. For more information, call (805) 687-1592.

A Walk Through the Farmer's Market will be from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends until Oct. 1 in the Santa Barbara Public Library. The market is an art exhibit presented by the Los Padres Watercolor Society. Call (805) 966-6414.



The Sierra Club offers 90-minute hiking tours at or around Lompoc at

6:25 p.m. Tuesdays. People who want to take the tour should meet at the Lompoc Civic Center to carpool to the hiking location. People should bring a flashlight and wear walking shoes. For more information, call 736-6362.

Free tours of Vandenberg take place every Wednes day from 10 a.m. to place every Wednes-

12:30 p.m. The tour includes a visit to the Heritage Center which contains Cold War artifacts dating back to Vandenberg's beginnings. Reservations should be made at least three weeks in advance. For more information or reservations. call the public affairs office at 606-3595.

Safety check-up



Suzie Thielmann, a car seat inspector, explains how Jerry Dixon can correctly place his 8-monthold daughter Cheyenne in a child safety seat. Family advocacy and U.S.A.A. sponsored the free

inspections Aug. 30 at Chapel 1. They checked 55 car seats. Forty-one of the seats were placed in vehicles incorrectly. They also gave away 18 new car seats.

The health and wellness center has weekly nutrition classes from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Topics include heart smart for cholesterol control, meal planning for diabetes, prenatal and child nutrition, and nutrition for health. For more information, call the HAWC at 606-2221.

The monthly prayer breakfast is Thursday from 6:30 to 7:20 a.m. in the

Breakers dining facility. The Inter-faith breakfast will feature 30th Space Wing Command Chief Master Sgt. Michael Morey as the guest speaker. Everyone is invited to attend this free and inspirational event. Call the chapel at 606-5773 for information.

The Hispanic Heritage Month planning committee meets in the services center Thursdays from 11 a.m. to noon. People do not have to be Hispanic to participate. For more information, call Airman 1st Class Mercedes Zamora at 605-2644 or Senior Airman Alexander Rodriguez at 606-1541, Ext. 3718.

The Titan Toastmasters meet from 4 to 5 p.m. every Thursday in the

services center. People can learn how to speak effectively in a no-pressure and supportive environment. People can also learn how to run a meeting. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. For information, call Loretta Williams at 605-3001 or Bruce Henderson at 606-1541, Ext. 3627.

The Santa Ynez Valley Wine **Auction** will be Sept. 14 to 17.

The event features a golf tournament at the River Course at Alisal, special events at valley wineries, silent and live auctions and a dinner at the Fess Parker Winery. For more information, call (805) 568-0588.

The **Taste of Downtown**, is Sept. 15 in

Paso Robles. The event will feature food from more then 20 different local

restaurants, art exhibits, wine tasting, horse-drawn carriage rides, music and entertainment. For more information, call (805) 238-4103.

The American Association of University Women will start its academic year with a brunch in Maria Del Sol restaurant from 9:30 a.m. to noon Sept. 15. For more information, call (805) 937-0825.

The Santa Barbara Concours **d'Elegance** show will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 15 to 17 at Glen Annie Golf Course.

The show will feature fine cars, fashion shows, a children's art contest, food and music. For more information, call (805) 884-9972.

The Las Fiestas Patrias street festival will be held Sept. 16 at Santa Maria's civic

center on the corner of East Cook and South McClelland. The festival will feature live music, entertainment, food and fun. The event celebrates the cultural diversity of the Santa Maria Valley. For more information, call (805) 925-2403, Ext. 817.

The annual **Warbird Roundup** fundraiser for the Santa Maria Museum

of Flight will be held Sept. 21 to 23. People can view warbird fly-ins and historic planes at the Santa Maria Public Airport. For more information, call (805) 922-8758.

Velkommen to **Danish Days** in Solvang Sept. 21 to 23. The event is held to celebrate Solvang's Danish heritage. Old world customs and pageantry are relived with Danish folk dancing, music, parades, food and entertainment. For more information,

call the Solvang conference and visitor's bureau at (805) 668-6144.

The Space and Sea Girl Scout troop will hold an ice cream social Sept. 22 from 1

to 3 p.m. on the lawn in front of the base bowling center. The event is open to all new or returning girl scouts grades Kindergarten through 12 and family members or adults who are interested in becoming leaders. For more information, call the Scout Hut at 605-2217 or the Santa Maria office at (805) 928-2008.

The Cal Poly Arts center will present jazz saxophonist Kenny G in concert at 8 p.m. Sept. 22 at Harman Hall in the Christopher Cohen Center.

This is the first show of Cal Poly's center stage series. Call the performing arts ticket office at (888) 233-2787 or visit the web site at www.pacslo.org for

Los Alamos Old Days 2001 will feature classic car and motorcycle shows, dinner and dance at the Men's Club Sept. 22. A parade and barbecue at the Men's Club will be held Sept 23. There will be a peddler's market and live music in three locations. For information on the peddler's mart, call (805) 344-3024. For information on the car show, call (805) 344-2504.

The Santa Maria Valley YMCA's Tribe held Sept. 23. for-Fun triathlon will

The course offers challenges for all. For more information, call (805) 937-8521.

People can enjoy a montage of jazz, blues and readings at Jazz and Blues: Words and Music 7:30 p.m. Sept. 23 at the Lobero Theatre in Santa Barbara. For information, call (805) 963-0761.

Readers can enjoy the News-Press **Book and Author Festival** from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sept. 23 at the De la Guerra Plaza in Santa Barbara. For more information, call 805-892-2250, ext. 3000.



AT THE MOVIES 111111111

AMERICAN SWEETHEARTS

Starring Julia Roberts and Billy Crystal.

Kiki is the devoted personal assistant and sister to megastar Gwen Harrison.

Life with her famous sister has never been easy for Kiki, but it's about to get even harder.

Kiki finds she's faced with a more important concern as her life takes a romantic turn.

Rated PG-13 for language and some crude, sexual humor.

Saturday 3 p.m.

JURASSIC PARK III

Starring Sam Neill and William H. Macy.

Anxious to fund research for his new theory of velociraptor intelligence, renowned paleontologist Dr. Alan Grant is persuaded by wealthy adventurer Paul Kirby and his wife, Amanda, to accompany them on an aerial tour of Isla Sorna, InGen's site B.

A tragic accident maroons them on the island and in their attempt to escape, the dwindling group encounters

terrifying new creatures. Rated PG-13 for intense sci-fi terror and violence.

AMERICAN SWEETHEARTS

Sunday 3 p.m. JURASSIC PARK III Rated PG-13

Sept. 14 THE SCORE

Starring Robert Deniro, Edward Norton and Angela Basset.

An aging thief has retired to live off his riches, running a Montreal jazz lounge until he's blackmailed into doing one more heist by a young upstart. The unlikely alliance requires that Nick violate his most important rule: Always work alone.

Rated R for strong language.

Sept. 15 3 p.m. **OSMOSIS JONES**

Starring Bill Murray and Chris Rock.

Deep in the city of Frank, the body of construction worker Frank Detomello. Osmosis Jones is a white blood cell cop who has to team up with a rookie cold tablet to fight off evil viruses

intent on taking over. Rated PG for bodily humor.

THE SCORE

All movies start at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

SPACE&MISSILETIMES Sept. 7, 2001

30th ervices





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SCHEDULE

Monday N.Y. Giants vs.<u>Denver</u>

Sept. 17 Minnesota vs. **Baltimore**

Sept. 24 **Washington** vs. Green Bay

Oct. 1 San Francisco vs. NY Jets

Oct. 8 St. Louis vs. <u>Detroit</u>

Oct. 15 **Washington** vs. <u>Dallas</u>

Oct. 22 **Philadelphia** vs. NY Giants Oct. 29

Tennessee vs. Pittsburgh

Nov. 5 **Denver** vs. <u>Oakland</u>



GAME SCHEDULE

> Nov. 12 **Baltimore**

vs. <u>Tennessee</u>

Nov. 19 **NY Giants** vs. Minnesota

Nov. 26 Tampa Bay

vs. St Louis

Dec. 3 **Green Bay** vs. Jacksonville

Dec. 10 **Indianapolis** vs. Miami

Dec. 17 St. Louis vs. New Orleans

Dec. 22

Tennessee vs. <u>Oakland</u>

Dec. 29

Baltimore vs. <u>Tampa Bay</u>

CLUBS







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